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person first in the morning signifies good luck to some. — For a bride to wear heliotrope, ivy, or clover. (Signifies faithfulness.) — To see a spider, toad, wolf, or lady-bird (if the last-named alight on the bride) on the way to the wedding. — For a bride to dream of fairies the night before the wedding. — To kiss the bride at the ceremony, and before her husband has kissed her.

LETTER TO RATS. The ancient custom of banishing rats by means of a letter has already been discussed in the *Journal of American Folk-Lore*, vol. v. p. 23. Another example is furnished by a correspondent (December 11), who recites how a farmer of South Walsingham, according to advice, "wrote a friendly letter to the rats, telling them that his crops were short, that he could not afford to keep them through the winter, that he had been very kind to them, and that for their own benefit he thought they should leave him, and go to some of his neighbors who had more grain. This letter the farmer pinned to one of the posts in the barn for the rats to read, and, strange to say, in two days every rat left his premises."

MISCELLANEOUS. "In the case of a recent death in Toronto, all the pictures in the house were turned with their faces to the wall, the clock was stopped, and the household Tabby had a bit of crepe tied round her neck." (November 13.) — "Lightning will never strike a birch-tree. — To insure its bearing again, one should thank the tree from which fruit is gathered." (December 11.) — Nick a calf's ear if you wish it to prosper. — Bluevale brides consider it a particularly bad omen if the sun does not shine on their wedding day. But it might as well not shine, if its rays do not fall on their unbonneted heads. I know of one woman who was married under not the most auspicious circumstances. The day was rainy and dismal; the sun shone but once, then only for a moment! The bride rushed out of doors to receive its rays. Since then prosperity has been good to her and hers, and all on account of the sunbeams falling on her bare head on her wedding day." (December 18.)

The gathering of Mr. Boyle promises to reach considerable dimensions.